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10/725,419	12/03/2003	Satoshi Egawa	117183	8787
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RILEY, MARCUS T				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/725,419

Applicant(s)

EGAWA ET AL.

Examiner

MARCUS T. RILEY

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 July 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on July 07, 2009 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

2. This office action is responsive to applicant's remarks received on July 07, 2009. Claims 1-39 remain pending.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1, 15, 29 & 35 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. **Claims 1-39** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurozasa et al. (US 6,614,546 hereinafter, Kurozasa '546) in combination with Nakajima et al. (US 7,305,620 hereinafter, Nakajima '6208).

Regarding claim 1; Kurozasa '546 discloses an image forming device (Fig. 1, #1) connected to an external device (Fig. 1, Print Server and Client Computers CC1-CC4), the image forming device comprising:

a receiving unit that: receives a print request from the external device (See Fig 1 where the digital copying machine 1 is connected to the printer server PS and receives a number of print requests from the client computers CC1 to CC4 via PS. Column 6, lines 3-7);

the print request including printing data to be printed in accordance with the a print request and (The digital copying machine 1 receives a number of print requests (print jobs and copying jobs), stores the received job data, and sequentially print-outputs the data in the received order. Column 6, lines 1-7);

a memory that stores the printing data (Fig. 3, Memory "M", See also Column 6, lines 3-7);

performs data processing for providing image data from the printing data stored in the memory (The digital copying machine 1 receives a number of print requests (print jobs and copying jobs), stores the received job data, and sequentially print-outputs the data in the received order. Column 6, lines 1-7);

a printing mechanism (Fig. 3, PRT) that provides printed output of the image data output by the controller (The digital copying machine 1 has a function to print-output image information received from the client computers CC1 to CC4 via the printer server PS. Column 3, lines 60-65).

wherein the external device (Fig. 4, CC1 to CC4) controls the editing of the printing data (See Fig. 4, #102, Document Forming/Editing. Here, the user uses the document-forming application program #101 which operates on the client computers CC1 to CC4 to edit an document. See also Column 6, lines 12-14).

Kurozasa '546 does not expressly disclose where after reception of the printing data has begun, receives an editing request from the external device to edit the printing data; a controller (Fig. 2, #11) that: initiates an editing mode of the image forming device which enables editing of the printing data previously stored in the memory of the image forming device in response to the received editing request the print request not being edited by the editing of the printing data; editing of the printing data not including editing of a printing sequence of print requests received by the image forming device.

Nakajima '620 discloses after reception of the printing data has begun, receives an editing request from the external device to edit the printing data (See Fig. 9, Steps S101-S111. See column 6, line 56 thru column 7, line 3);

a controller (Fig. 2, #11) that: initiates an editing mode of the image forming device which enables editing of the printing data previously stored in the memory of the image forming device in response to the received editing request the print request not being edited by the editing of the printing data (See Fig. 9, Steps S101-S111. See column 6, line 56 thru column 7, line 3);

the editing of the printing data not including editing of a printing sequence of print requests received by the image forming device (See Fig. 9, Steps S101-S111. See column 6, line 56 thru column 7, line 3).

Kurozasa '546 and Nakajima '620 are combinable because they are from same field of endeavor of image forming systems (Fig. 1 of Nakajima '620 is a diagram showing the configuration of a print system).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the printer system as taught by Kurozasa '546 by adding editing of the printing data as taught by Nakajima '620. The motivation for doing so would have been because it is

advantageous to provide an image editing system capable of highly efficient editing of print data if a user makes a mistake. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kurozasa '546 with Nakajima '620 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

Regarding claim 2; Kurozasa '546 does not expressly disclose wherein the controller starts the data processing of the printing data after an editing-allowable state of the printing data has been completed.

Nakajima '620 discloses wherein the controller starts the data processing of the printing data after an editing-allowable state of the printing data has been completed (See Fig. 9, Steps S101-S111. See column 6, line 56 thru column 7, line 3).

Kurozasa '546 and Nakajima '620 are combinable because they are from same field of endeavor of image forming systems (Fig. 1 of Nakajima '620 is a diagram showing the configuration of a print system).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the printer system as taught by Kurozasa '546 by adding a controller that starts the data processing of the printing data after an editing-allowable state of the printing data has been completed as taught by Nakajima '620. The motivation for doing so would have been because it is advantageous to provide an image editing system capable of highly efficient editing of print data if a user makes a mistake after the printing data has been completed. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kurozasa '546 with Nakajima '620 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

Regarding claim 3; Nakajima '620 discloses wherein the controller starts processing of subsequent printing data when the printing data next in order is in the editing-allowable state (See Fig. 9, Steps S101-S111. See column 6, line 56 thru column 7, line 3).

Regarding claim 4 Nakajima '620 discloses wherein the processing of the printing data in the editing-allowable state is started when the editing of the printing data is completed and the processing of the subsequent printing data is completed (See Fig. 9, Steps S101-S111. See column 6, line 56 thru column 7, line 3).

Regarding claim 5; Nakajima '620 discloses wherein the printing data is stored in the memory after the printed output is provided (See Fig. 2 where the spooler 12 temporarily stores a print control code which is output from the print controller 11, into the spool file 13. Column 4, lines 58-60).

Regarding claim 6; Nakajima '620 discloses wherein the controller also transmits the printing data stored in the memory to the information processor (See Fig. 2 the spooler 12 temporarily stores a print control code which is output from the print controller 11, into the spool file 13. The despooler 17 reads out the data stored in the spool file 13 and then outputs the read out data (the spool process). The data output from the despooler 17 is transmitted to the printing device 2 through transfer controlling means which is not shown. Column 4, lines 58-60).

Regarding claim 7; Nakajima '620 discloses wherein the controller starts the data processing after the printing data is entirely received by the image forming device (See Fig. 9, Steps S101-S111. See column 6, line 56 thru column 7, line 3).

Regarding claim 8; Claim 8 contains substantially similar features as that of claim 7. Thus, claim 8 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 7.

Regarding claim 9; Nakajima '620 discloses wherein the controller enables editing of the printing data if the printing data satisfies a predetermined condition (See Fig. 9, Steps S101-S111. See column 6, line 56 thru column 7, line 3);

Regarding claim 10; Claim 10 contains substantially similar features as that of claim 9. Thus, claim 10 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 9.

Regarding claims 15 & 29; Claims 15 & 29 contain substantially similar features as that of claim 1. Thus, claims 15 & 29 are rejected on the same ground as claim 1.

Regarding claim 16; Claim 16 contains substantially similar features as that of claim 2. Thus, claim 16 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 2.

Regarding claim 17 & 30; Claims 17 & 30 contain substantially similar features as that of claim 3. Thus, claim 17 & 30 are rejected on the same grounds as claim 3.

Regarding claim 18 & 31; Claims 18 & 31 contain substantially similar features as that of claim 4. Thus, claims 18 & 31 are rejected on the same grounds as claim 4.

Regarding claim 19 & 32; Claims 19 & 32 contain substantially similar features as that of claim 5. Thus, claims 19 & 32 are rejected on the same grounds as claim 5.

Regarding claim 20 & 33; Claims 20 & 33 contain substantially similar features as that of claim 6. Thus, claims 20 & 33 are rejected on the same grounds as claim 6.

Regarding claim 21; Claim 21 contains substantially similar features as that of claim 7. Thus, claim 21 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 7.

Regarding claim 22; Claim 22 contains substantially similar features as that of claim 8. Thus, claim 22 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 8.

Regarding claim 23 & 34; Claims 23 & 34 contain substantially similar features as that of claim 9. Thus, claims 23 & 34 are rejected on the same grounds as claim 9.

Regarding claim 24; Claim 24 contains substantially similar features as that of claim 10. Thus, claim 24 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 10.

Regarding claim 36; Kurozasa '546 discloses a printing device (Fig. 1, #1) connected to a host device (Fig. 1, Print Server and Client Computers CC1-CC4), the image forming device comprising:

a receiving part that receives printing data from the host device (See Fig. 1 where the digital copying machine 1 is connected to the printer server PS and receives a number of print requests from the client computers CC1 to CC4 via PS. Column 6, lines 3-7);

the printing data to be printed in accordance with a print request received from the host device (The digital copying machine 1 receives a number of print requests (print jobs and copying jobs), stores the received job data, and sequentially print-outputs the data in the received order. Column 6, lines 1-7);

a memory that stores the printing data received by the receiving part (Fig. 3, Memory "M", See also Column 6, lines 3-7);

a printing controller (Fig. 3, "CTRL") that controls the printing data stored in the memory so as to print the printing data according to a predetermined sequence (The digital copying machine 1 receives a number of print requests (print jobs and copying jobs), stores the received job data, and sequentially print-outputs the data in the received order. Column 6, lines 1-7);

wherein the external device (Fig. 4, CC1 to CC4) controls the editing of the printing data the editing of the printing data not including editing of a printing sequence of print requests received by the image forming device (See Fig. 4, #102, Document Forming/Editing, Here, the user uses the document-forming application program #101 which operates on the client computers CC1 to CC4 to edit an document. See also Column 6, lines 12-14).

Kurozasa '546 does not expressly disclose an editing part that sets the printing data stored in the memory to an editing-allowable state according to an editing request from the host device, the print request not being edited when the printing data is set to the editing-allowable state; wherein the printing controller temporarily stops processing of the printing data depending on the editing request for the printing data from the host device; cancels the temporary stop

condition if the editing is completed when a printing order for the printing data arrives so as to perform the printing processing of the printing data after the editing of the printing data; and cancels the temporary stop condition at a predetermined timing after the end of the editing if the editing is not completed when the printing order of the printing data arrives so as to perform the printing processing of the printing data after the editing of the printing data.

Nakajima '620 discloses an editing part (Fig. 9, Steps S105 & S107) that sets the printing data stored in the memory to an editing-allowable state according to an editing request from the host device, the print request not being edited when the printing data is set to the editing-allowable state (See Fig. 9, Steps S101-S111. See column 6, line 56 thru column 7, line 3);

wherein the printing controller temporarily stops processing of the printing data depending on the editing request for the printing data from the host device (See Fig. 9, Steps S101-S111. See column 6, line 56 thru column 7, line 3);

cancels the temporary stop condition if the editing is completed when a printing order for the printing data arrives so as to perform the printing processing of the printing data after the editing of the printing data (See Fig. 10, Steps S201-S210. See column 7, lines 4-24 and see column 5, lines 53-60);

and cancels the temporary stop condition at a predetermined timing after the end of the editing if the editing is not completed when the printing order of the printing data arrives so as to perform the printing processing of the printing data after the editing of the printing data (See Fig. 10, Steps S201-S210. See column 7, lines 4-24 and see column 5, lines 53-60);

Kurozasa '546 and Nakajima '620 are combinable because they are from same field of endeavor of image forming systems (Fig. 1 of Nakajima '620 is a diagram showing the configuration of a print system).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the printer system as taught by Kurozasa '546 by adding an editing part and a controller to temporarily stops processing as taught by Nakajima '620. The motivation for doing so would have been because it is advantageous to provide an image editing system capable of highly efficient editing of print data if a user makes a mistake. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kurozasa '546 with Nakajima '620 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 36.

Regarding claim 11; Nakajima '620 discloses wherein the controller enables editing of the printing data when an information processor which has transmitted the printing data is identical to an information processor which requests the editing of the printing data (See Fig. 9, Steps S101-S111. See column 6, line 56 thru column 7, line 3).

Regarding claim 12; Claim 12 contains substantially similar features as that of claim 11. Thus, claim 12 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 11.

Regarding claim 13; Nakajima '620 discloses wherein the controller enables the editing of the printing data when user information added to the printing data is identical to user information input by a user who requests editing (See Fig. 9, Steps S101-S111. See column 6, line 56 thru column 7, line 3).

Regarding claim 14; Claim 14 contains substantially similar features as that of claim 13. Thus, claim 14 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 13.

Regarding claim 25 & 35; Claims 25 & 35 contains substantially similar features as that of claim 11. Thus, claim 25 & 35 are rejected on the same grounds as claim 11.

Regarding claim 26; Claim 26 contains substantially similar features as that of claim 12. Thus, claim 26 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 12.

Regarding claim 27; Claim 27 contains substantially similar features as that of claim 13. Thus, claim 27 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 13.

Regarding claim 28; Claim 28 contains substantially similar features as that of claim 14. Thus, claim 28 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 14.

Regarding claim 37; Nakajima '620 discloses wherein the printing data is sent back to the external device for editing by the external device (See Fig. 9, Steps S101-S111 & Fig. 10, Steps S201-S210, See column 6, line 56 thru column 7, line 61).

Regarding claim 38; Nakajima '620 discloses wherein the printing data to be edited is replaced by edited printing data that was edited by the external device (See Fig. 9, Steps S101-S111 & Fig. 10, Steps S201-S210, See column 6, line 56 thru column 7, line 61).

Regarding claim 39; Nakajima '620 discloses wherein the controller enables editing of a received portion of the printing data while a remaining portion of the printing data is still being received (See Fig. 9, Steps S101-S111 & Fig. 10, Steps S201-S210, See column 6, line 56 thru column 7, line 61).

Examiner Notes

6. The Examiner cites particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested that, in preparing responses, the applicant fully considers the references in its entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or as disclosed by the Examiner.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MARCUS T. RILEY whose telephone number is (571)270-1581. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 7:30-5:00, est.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on 571-272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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